

BOROUGH OF TENBY

---



# ANNUAL REPORT

1961

---

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
Dr. P. M. BOWEN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.C.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
H. P. LAWRENCE, A.R.S.H., A.M.I.B.E.



B O R O U G H   O F   T E N B Y

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR  
THE YEAR 1961

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
Borough of Tenby,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to present my Annual Report upon matters affecting the Public Health in the Borough during the year 1961.

During 1961, further consideration has been given to the housing problem. It was realised that increased accommodation was required, particularly for the elderly and for the smaller family, so that the Council wisely decided to build a number of two-bedroomed flats - thirty-six in all. Also, cottages adjacent to the old folk's bungalows are to be purchased and modernised and made suitable for housing the elderly. The completion of these schemes, in addition to the private development going on, should ease the housing problem considerably.

I am pleased to report that the infant mortality rate returned to its usual low level. Only one infant death occurred and that was due to congenital malformations.

Again I would like to emphasise how important a part the Public Health Inspector plays in the maintenance of the conditions suitable for healthy living. Much work has been done to implement the recommendations made under the Food and Hygiene regulations and conditions have improved in the shops, boarding houses and hotels.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Council and its officers for their continued courtesy and co-operation and to include in this my thanks to my clerk, Mrs. V.K. Hughes, for all her help.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Guildhall,  
Tenby.

Tel: Tenby 2589

Your obedient servant,

  
PHYLLIS M. BOWEN, M.R.C.S.,  
L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.C.H.



# V I T A L      S T A T I S T I C S

Resident Population (Registrar General's Estimate).....1961.....

.....4,500.....

	<u>Borough of</u> <u>Tenby 1961</u>	<u>Borough of</u> <u>Tenby 1960</u>	<u>County of</u> <u>Pembroke</u>	<u>England</u> <u>&amp; Wales</u>
Live Births	68	72		
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 pop.)	15.1	16.3	17.8	17.4
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births	2.9	8.3	4.7	
Still Births	1	2		
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 Live and Still Births)	14.5	27.02	24.0	18.7
Total Live and Still Births	69	74		
Infant Deaths (Deaths under 1 year)	1	6		
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live Births)				
- total	14.7	83.3	22.08	21.4
- legitimate	15.15	69.4	23.3	
- illegitimate	nil	166.6	12.6	
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 4 weeks) (per 1,000 Live Births)	14.7	69.4	15.0	15.5
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1 week) (per 1,000 Live Births)	14.7	69.4	13.2	
Peri-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1 week and Still Births combined) (per 1,000 Live and Still Births)	28.9	94.6	36.9	





Only one death occurred this year in infants under 1 year of age. This was due to congenital malformations and death occurred at the age of 4 hours.

The infant mortality rate is lower than last year's and also lower than the rate for the County as a whole and for England and Wales. The infant mortality rate for England and Wales, at 21.4, is the lowest ever recorded in this country. It is 0.5 below the rate for 1960, the previous lowest recorded.

	<u>Borough of</u> <u>Tenby 1961</u>	<u>Borough of</u> <u>Tenby 1960</u>	<u>County of</u> <u>Pembroke</u>	<u>England</u> <u>&amp; Wales</u>
Maternal Deaths	nil	nil		
Maternal Mortality Rate(per 1,000 Live and Still Births)	nil	nil	0.58	0.33
Deaths	58.8	75	12.5	12.0
Death Rate(per 1,000 pop.)	12.8	16.9		

There is a decrease also in the general death rate this year, although at 12.8 per 1,000 it is higher than that for the county as a whole and for England and Wales. Of the ten deaths from cancer, two were due to cancer of the lung and both occurred in males over 60 years of age. Only one of them was known to be a heavy smoker of cigarettes. The highest number of deaths from any one cause is again due to heart disease, it having accounted for twenty-one of the fifty-eight deaths.

72.4% of deaths occurred in persons aged over 70 years, and of these, 31.03% occurred in persons aged over 80 years.

<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
TOTAL (All causes)	22	36
Tuberculosis, respiratory,	1	-
Malignant neoplasm of stomach	1	1
Malignant neoplasm of lung, bronchus,	2	-
Malignant neoplasm of breast	-	1
Malignant neoplasm of uterus	-	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	1	3
Diabetes	1	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	2	7
Coronary disease, angina,	3	4
Hypertension with heart disease	1	-
Other heart disease	4	9
Other circulatory disease	2	1
Influenza	-	1
Bronchitis	3	-
Congenital malformations	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	-	6
All other accidents	1	1





## TUBERCULOSIS

One death, (male) occurred this year from respiratory tuberculosis. Two new cases, both women, were notified and one was admitted to hospital.

## PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS

B.C.G. Vaccination B.C.G. Vaccination of contacts and school leavers continues to be carried out in the Borough. Clinic sessions are held at Warren Street Clinic for the purpose and the schools are also visited. During 1961 7 contacts and 62 school leavers (i.e. pupils aged thirteen years and over) were vaccinated. The Chest Physician, Dr. Llewelyn Davies, also vaccinates contacts at the Chest Clinic.

## MASS RADIOGRAPHY

The Mobile Unit of the Mass Radiography Service made a special survey of the general population in Tenby in December and the results of this visit are as follows:-

	<u>Grand Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Total No. examined	249	113	136
No. found to be abnormal	16 (6.43%)	6	10
No. requiring further observation	1 (.40%)	-	1
Other abnormalities of the chest	15 (6.03%)	6	9

## NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

25	Measles
2	Scarlet Fever
2	Respiratory Tuberculosis

## VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS

During the early part of the year the fourth injection was given to school children between the ages of five and twelve years. As the use of oral vaccine proved so satisfactory in the Hull epidemic, the Ministry of Health reduced and finally stopped supplying the Salk vaccine to Local Authorities while further work was being carried out on Oral vaccine for general use.



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2016 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28879466>

## NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

### LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES

<u>Vaccination</u>	Records were received during the year of 49 primary and 4 re-vaccinations.
<u>Immunisation</u>	Records were received during the year of 93 primary immunisations against diphtheria and 67 reinforcing injections, and also 84 immunisations against whooping cough.

Both vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough are carried out at the Clinic and by the local practitioners, who are paid by the County Council on receipt by your Medical Officer of the record cards.

### Ambulance Service

This is the responsibility of the County Council, which has seven ambulances in the County and an arrangement for the provision of cars for "sitting cases". The Tenby Ambulance has been supplied by the Welsh Ambulance Committee and is operated on a garage arrangement basis by Jeremy's Garages Limited. The British Red Cross Society is most helpful in providing voluntary attendants.

Much of the work in the south of the County consists of out-patient sitting cases requiring transport to hospitals in Carmarthen, Pembroke and Haverfordwest. Generally, these cases are carried by hired cars in order that the ambulance shall be free to deal with emergency cases. This procedure is particularly important in the summer months when the area is full of holiday makers.

During 1961, the Tenby ambulance dealt with 2,132 patients, 461 of whom were stretcher cases and 1,671 sitting cases. The total number of miles travelled was 24,499 and 496 journeys were made.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47:- Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No action was necessary under this section.



REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR

1961

Total No. of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts).	-	321
No. of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	-	nil
No. of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	-	8
No. of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority.	-	6

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING YEAR

No. of houses made fit after formal notice under:-

(a) Public Health Act	-	nil
(b) Section 9, Housing Act, 1957. (By Owner)	-	nil

Housing Act, 1957. Section 18.

No. of undertakings accepted not to use premises for human habitation.	-	nil
--	---	-----

Rent Act, 1957.

No applications were received during the year for Certificates of Disrepair, though several enquiries were made and every assistance given.

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.

The numbers of applications received for grant aid towards improvements were as follows:-

	<u>No. of applications</u>	<u>No. approved</u>
Standard Grants	- 2	2
Discretionary Grants	- 8	6

The number of applications was disappointingly low, being less than half the number made the previous year. All applications were in respect of owner-occupied property. Under the Housing Act, 1961 provision is made for an increase in the permitted rental from 8% to 12½% in respect of improvement works.





This may possibly encourage owners of tenanted property to make application for improvement grants, since grant aid for houses in this category has been almost non-existent in the Borough.

A scheme was put in hand during the year for the purchase of 8 cottages in Jones Terrace adjacent to the newly completed Old People's Bungalows at Augustus Place. It is proposed that the cottages be modernised to one-bedroom dwellings with modern facilities and it is hoped that the scheme will be implemented during 1962.

### New Houses

No new Council houses were built during 1961, but preparations were well in hand for the erection of 24 two-bedroom flats on Marsh Road and 12 two-bedroom flats at Newell Hill. In order that better use may be made of existing accommodation, it has been decided that new housing projects should cater for the smaller type of dwelling, and so enable exchanges of tenancy to be made.

73 houses and flats were provided by private enterprise. A new area for private development was promoted by the Corporation at Lady Park. Provision is made here for the erection of 19 houses and 25 bungalows.

Since a number of applicants for plots on the above estate are tenants of Council houses, it is anticipated that this development will have the welcome effect of relieving the numbers on the Council's Housing List.

### Houses provided under the Housing Acts.

The total number of houses erected under the Housing Acts by the Council is 351.

These may be sub-divided as follows:-

4 bedrooms	-	2	
3 bedrooms	-	240	
2 bedrooms	-	59	(including prefabricated
2 bedroom flats	-	24	houses)
1 bedroom bungalows	-	26	

Every effort is being made to maintain the 50 Arcon type prefabricated bungalows in a waterproof condition. However, permission has now been received for their demolition as and when suitable alternative accommodation is made available.

At the end of 1961 the number of applicants on the Council's Housing List was 72.





On the completion of the projects now in hand, I see no reason why the re-housing of all but the less needy cases should not be completed during the next few years.

### Re-housing

13 families were re-housed by the Corporation during the year. 10 names were added to the list during that period.

### PUBLIC CLEANSING

A new Austin rear-loading refuse collection vehicle was purchased during the year to meet the extra demand on the service during the holiday period. During the period July - September two vehicles were kept fully occupied and additional staff had to be engaged. With the gradual increase in the number of properties, coupled with the change from solid fuel heating to gas electricity and oil, the quantity of refuse to be collected increases each year by a considerable amount. The new forms of packaging for food and other goods are resulting in more refuse and the high percentage of paper in the refuse further aggravates the problem. If this tendency continues, as it surely will, then incineration seems to be the only satisfactory method of refuse disposal.

The use of one vehicle during the winter months on refuse collection has been maintained during the year, but the increasing demand and the spread of the town means that two vehicles will be necessary in the near future to maintain the present service.

The Clickett's Lane site continues as the disposal ground, and there is space available for a further period of about 12 - 18 months, when the adjoining field will be used.

### RODENT CONTROL

One part time operator is employed on this work, under my general direction.

There was an increase in the number of complaints this year but all were speedily dealt with. The sewers received two treatments and the refuse disposal site four.

The following table shows the number of inspections and treatments carried out during the period under review:-

No. of properties inspected	-		151
No. of treatments	-	(a) Dwellings	129
		(b) Business Premises	6
		(c) L.A. Properties	13



## CAMPING SITES

No additional caravan sites were opened during the year and the following existing sites continued to operate:-

1) Kiln Park.	- 250 caravans
	50 touring vans and tents
2) Saltern, Marsh Road.	- 50 caravans /for 200 persons
3) Zion Gardens, St.John's Hill.	- 28 caravans
4) Meadow Farm, North Cliff.	- 12 caravans
5) Windmills, Narberth Road.	- 6 caravans

The position regarding licensing under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 is under review.

## TOILET FACILITIES

As a result of the survey of conveniences in the Borough carried out during 1960, a start was made in bringing about improvements during the past year.

A new block was constructed at Butt's Field to replace the existing conveniences. This was completed in November and will be brought into use at the commencement of the 1962 season. Further improvements were carried out to the Upper Frog Street conveniences and to those on the Croft.

In the construction of new toilets every effort has been made to set a high standard, which, it is hoped, will encourage the public, especially those who take a delight in mis-using these facilities, to exercise greater respect for public property. It is gratifying to note that where these measures have been adopted in other towns, the results have been very satisfactory. Plans are well in hand for the construction of additional toilets in Upper Park Road.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

### Milk Supply

No. of retailers	- 12
------------------	------

### Milk Samples

No. of samples	- 20
Satisfactory	- 18
Unsatisfactory	- 2

All samples taken were for "keeping quality" and efficiency of pasteurisation.

Milk Licences are now issued by the County Council Weights and Measures Department.



## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955. Section 16.

No. of premises registered to sell ice-cream	-	34
No. of premises registered to manufacture ice-cream	-	3

### RETAIL FOOD PREMISES

Grocers	-	19 ( 1 seasonal)
Butchers	-	7
Bakers	-	6
Fish Friers	-	2
Cafes	-	25

35 inspections were made during the year of the kitchens of hotels, boarding houses and cafes. The majority were satisfactory, but complete reconstruction was found to be necessary at two hotel and two cafe kitchens to bring them up to standard. Work on these was well advanced at the end of the year. A further five required minor works, including re-decoration of walls and ceilings.

The following table give the quantity of food examined during 1961 and found unfit for human consumption.

<u>Class of Food</u>		<u>Wtts.</u>	<u>Weight</u> <u>Qtrs.</u>	<u>Lbs.</u>	<u>Ozs.</u>
Bacon	-			38	0
Tinned Meat	-	6	2	5	11
Tinned Fish	-		1	1	0
Tinned Fruit	-	5	3	6	4
Tinned Vegetables	-	1	3	22	0
Tinned Milk	-			10	0
Miscellaneous	-		3	4	12
		15	3	3	11

### FOOD SAMPLING

The following is a list of samples taken in the Borough by the Weights and Measures Department of the County Council.

<u>Sample</u>	<u>No. Taken</u>	<u>Result</u>
Milk	25	Satisfactory
Ice Cream	3	"
Fruit Drinks	2	"





PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. Section 60.

Means of escape in case of fire.

In company with a member of the County Fire Brigade a survey was carried out on 40 hotels and boarding houses in the Borough. Reports were made and a copy sent to the occupier concerned, together with our recommendations. It is evident from the survey that little attention has been paid to this matter by proprietors, and in a number of cases quite substantial constructional works will be necessary to provide adequate and satisfactory means of escape. Hotel and boarding house proprietors would be well advised to seek advice on this subject before carrying out internal alterations to their premises, since most of these alterations are carried out with a view to increasing the accommodation, and thereby adding to their responsibilities regarding means of escape.

H.P.LAWRENCE,

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND

HOUSING OFFICER





